Comprehensive Family Support Programs



Purpose

The purpose of the Comprehensive Family Support programs – Family Support Subsidy (FSS) and Children at Home (CAH) – is to assist families of children with developmental disabilities to meet the special needs of their disabled children.

Who Is Helped

Both programs serve families of disabled children. Eligibility and availability are different.

Family Support Subsidy (FSS)

- Child under age 18 who lives at home with a developmental disability which results in substantial functional limitation in three or more areas of major life activity.
- Families with income below \$40,000 (adjusted gross income).
- Available statewide until state legislation ended new enrollment effective January 2010.
- A monthly average of 108 children received FSS in SFY16.

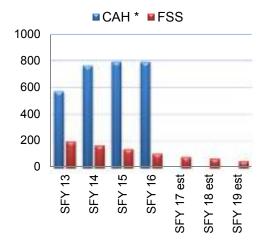
Children at Home (CAH)

- Person under 21 with a disability who lives at home or has a discharge plan to return home within 60 calendar days.
- Families with income below \$60,000 (adjusted gross income).
- Provided by 10 contractors serving 23 counties in SFY16.
- In SFY17, funding was transferred to the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for purposes of expanding the program to serve all 99 counties.
- Numbers served are expected to increase due to economies of scale by transitioning to a single administrator and increased funding through FSS savings.
- Having a single administrator will provide greater consistency in providing services.

Children Served SFY16 ■ CAH (88%) ■ FSS (12%) 12%



Number Served



*No CAH projections for SFY17-19 due to changes in delivery system, but expected to increase over SFY16 number served.

✓ About half of the families served through the Family Support Subsidy have household income of less than \$30,000/year.

Services

Family Support Subsidy (FSS)

- Provides a monthly payment of \$296 to families for SFY17. Used to support the family in keeping their child at home.
- Program will continue until the last child turns 18 (approximately 2024).

Children at Home (CAH)

- Provides funds for a particular need as they arise. Examples include adaptive equipment, special clothing, counseling, parent training, and respite.
- IDPH will partner with Visiting Nurse Services (VNS) of Iowa to provide services statewide.

Goals & Strategies	FSS Goal: Provide families with financial support to help keep their children with disabilities at home. FSS Strategy: Continue to provide family support subsidy funding to families currently enrolled until the child's 18 th birthday. As children leave the FSS program and the need for funds decreases, DHS proposes to move funds into the Children at Home program to increase the number of children served. CAH Goal: Gradually expand the program. CAH Strategy: The department proposes to continue using FSS dollars saved to provide CAH services to additional children through a statewide delivery system administered by IDPH.
Cost of Services	 The annual cost per child receiving Family Support Subsidy services for the full 12 months in SFY16 was \$3,554. The average annual cost per child of providing Children at Home services in SFY15 was \$528.
	 ✓ IDPH is partnering with Visiting Nurse Services to develop statewide standardized payment levels for individual requests and service needs. Data on types of services and payment in respective services will be collected and reviewed to better inform the program. ✓ The number of children that participate in FSS decreases each year due to children aging out. As a result, the amount of new savings that can be transferred from FSS to CAH also decreases.
Funding	The Comprehensive Family Support programs are funded exclusively by state dollars.
Sources	Total funding in SFY17 is \$1,069,282. • \$316,782 for Family Support Subsidy (FSS)
	 \$752,500 for Children at Home (CAH)
Legal	State: • Iowa Code, Chapters 225C.35-42 & 225C.47-49
Basis	10wa 00uc, 011apicis 2200.00-42 & 2200.47-48